

BEARCATS GOT GAME



HOMECOMING SPECIAL

- | | | | |
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PARADE ENTRIES

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FLOAT

Sigma Kappa & Sigma Tau Gamma
Alpha Sigma Alpha & Sigma Phi Epsilon
Phi Mu & Alpha Gamma Rho
The School of Agriculture
Alpha Kappa Lambda, Alpha Delta Pi
& Sigma Sigma Sigma

JALOPY

Sigma Sigma Sigma & Pi Kappa Alpha
Phi Mu & Alpha Gamma Rho
Sigma Phi Epsilon
The School of Agriculture
Alpha Sigma Alpha, Sigma Tau Gamma
& Sigma Kappa
Tau Kappa Epsilon

DANCING

Alpha Sigma Alpha
Phi Sigma Kappa
Phi Mu
The School of Agriculture
Sigma Sigma Sigma
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sigma Kappa
Sigma Tau Gamma

PAPER

Alpha Sigma Alpha
Sigma Sigma Sigma
Phi Mu
The School of Agriculture
Sigma Kappa
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sigma Tau Gamma
Phi Sigma Kappa

JUDGES

On-campus

Jackie Lacy
Stancy Bond
Justin Mallett
Katy Mason

Off-campus

Kelsey Bowlin
& Tim Janousek
Stiens Rosemary
Melinda Patton

MARRASNDAL

Dr. Arley Larson

Larson served as a faculty member of the School of Agriculture Science from the fall of 1987 through the summer of 2020. He was also the Department Chair from 1993 until 2012.

NW parade to feature multiple organizations

CASSANDRA FORD
Designer | @cassie_3673

Homecoming is a weeklong town celebration with different activities and events happening, one of the biggest events being the Homecoming Parade.

The parade has been going on for nearly 100 years, dating back to 1924, being the oldest Homecoming tradition at Northwest. This year the parade starts at 9 a.m. Oct. 22 at the corner of Ray Avenue and College Avenue.

Senior Jacob Maclean, executive chair for the parade, said he enjoys being part of Homecoming, and it's his favorite tradition at Northwest.

"Freshman year, I'll admit I wasn't getting up that early to go watch it, but every year I wanted to do it more, and COVID we didn't really have it, so my last two years I wanted to do it to see the parade before I graduate," Maclean said.

The parade has four com-

petitive decoration areas where parade participants can win money and prizes. Those categories being "Jalopy," "Dancing Clowns," "Paper Mache Heads" and the best, most original, expression of Bearcat pride and the Homecoming theme "Bearcats Got Game!" walking in the parade.

19 on-campus organizations are signed up to participate in this year's parade, with sign ups being open to the community up until the day of the parade.

The parade route will continue on West Fourth Street and turn onto North Main Street, turning back around onto West Fifth Street to end off on West Seventh Street.

Parking Lots 1, 2 and 3 at the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building along with Parking Lot 59, adjacent to Bearcat Stadium, will be closed and all vehicles need to be removed by 4 a.m. Oct. 22. Any remaining vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense at 6 a.m.



DAKOTA WEAVER PHOTO EDITOR

The Bearcat Marching Band prepares for its pre-game performance during Military Appreciation Day. The marching band will perform during the pep rally at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Raymond J. Courter College Park Pavillion.

Bearcat Marching Band members talk Homecoming traditions, experiences

KENNEDY KALVODA
News Reporter | @Kkalvoda1

An aspect of Homecoming week at Northwest that many people who participate in it enjoy is the Bearcat Marching Band, which has multiple performances throughout the week of events.

Addie Fitzwater, a senior section leader and trumpet player, said one of the reasons Homecoming week is important for the marching band to participate in is how present the band is.

"We're in front of the parade, and we're all very excited to be there at eight in the morning,"

Fitzwater said. "We have fun, and we hype up the crowd. Same with the football game, we bring life to the stadium when we're there."

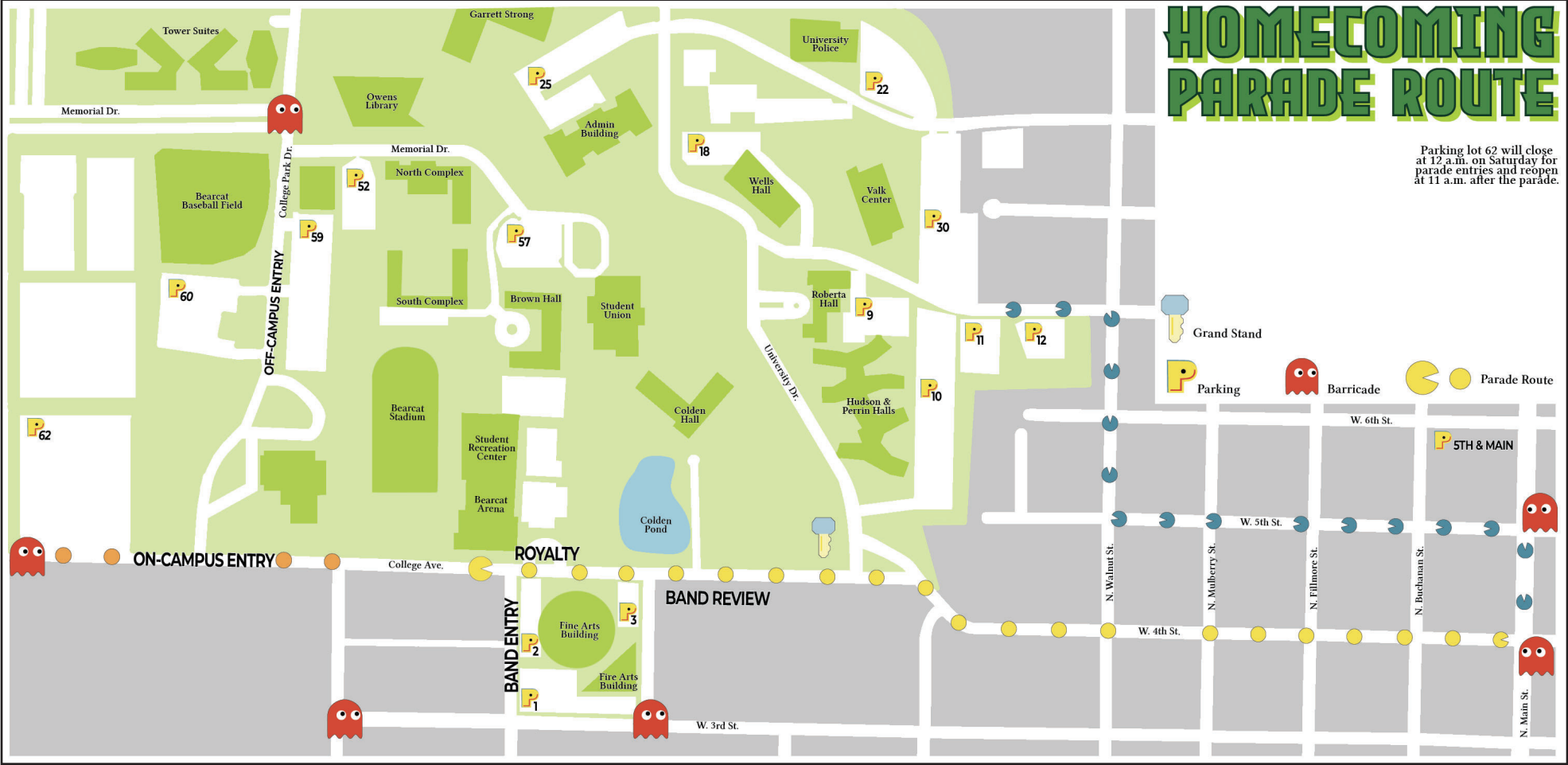
Alexi Fournier, a senior drum major and clarinet player, said her favorite memory during Homecoming week is what the band does on Walkout Day. On the Friday of Homecoming week when students have the day off for Walkout Day, marching band students go across campus and wake up other Northwest students early in the morning with pots, pans and other instruments.

"We wake them up," Fournier

said. "We get them excited. We're playing extremely loud, and we're hyping them up. It's great."

For those who are interested in watching the marching band perform, it will perform throughout the Homecoming Parade, which begins at 9 a.m. Oct. 22 and will start at the corner of Ray Avenue and College Avenue.

It will also perform during the Homecoming football game starting at 2 p.m. Oct. 22 at Bearcat Stadium. Before the kickoff, it will perform during a pep rally for the game starting at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Raymond J. Courter College Park Pavilion.





NATHAN SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER

Homecoming banners are hung outside of J.W. Jones Student Union, mirroring the 2022 Northwest Homecoming theme: "Bearcats Got Game!" Northwest Greek Life and other student organizations have the opportunity every year during the week to show off artistic abilities to the rest of the Northwest student body.

Banner winner to be announced

JOLIE GEISENDORFER
Designer | @TheMissourian

One of Northwest’s Homecoming activities is Banner. Banner is a competition among different campus organizations to showcase their artistic skills for all passersby to see.

The overall theme for Northwest Homecoming this year is arcade and board games titled “Bearcats Got Game!” This is

the theme each activity follows for design inspiration, including Banner.

The banners are put together by members of each organization using large tarps and lots of paint. Each organization’s banner was hung Oct. 17 outside of the J.W. Jones Student Union for all Bearcats to see, and judging took place that afternoon. Judging happens early in the week so that banners can be scored

before weather or wind has the chance to damage them.

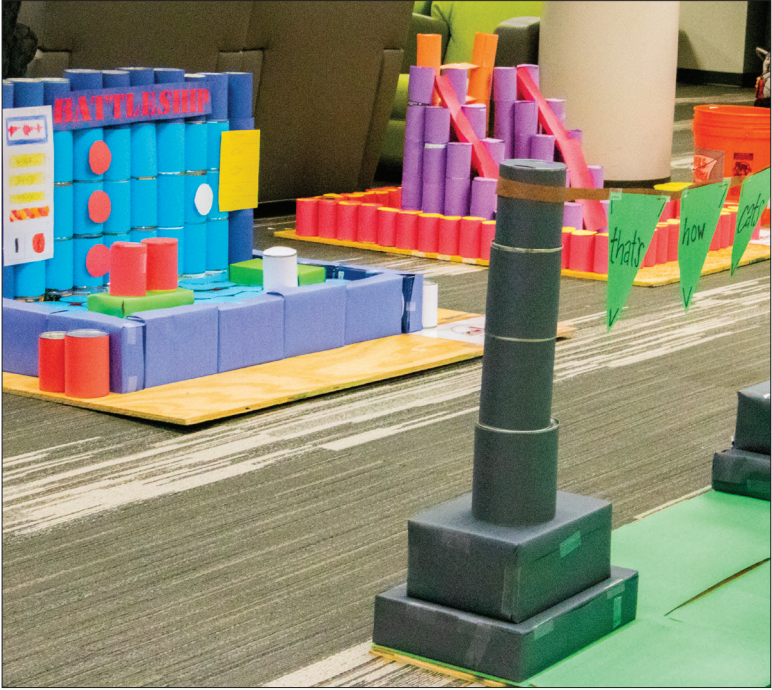
Seven judges scored the banners, mainly on each design’s uniqueness, neatness and if the bylaws were followed. The same judges scored Donation Creation, which is another activity displayed in the Student Union during Homecoming week.

Ciara Mattson, executive chair for Banner, Donation Creation and Philanthropy, says her favor-

ite part of Banner is seeing the drastic beginning-to-end result.

“My favorite part about Banner is most of the time they send a sketch, and it’s like a rough sketch, but then when they turn it in and they’re actually hung, you actually get to see the creation come to life,” Mattson said.

Winning banners will be announced at Homecoming awards at 6 p.m. Oct. 26 in the Charles Johnson Theatre.



NATHAN SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER

Board Game themed sculptures lay on the floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union during Northwest Homecoming week. These sculptures were created by Greek Life and different Northwest clubs and organizations.

Campus organizations display Donation Creation sculptures

SAVANNAH ATHY-SEDBROOK
Designer | @SavannahAS2

Multicolored construction paper litters the floor, markers spread across the top as participants scramble to bring their ideas to life. Cans, boxes and more become unrecognizable as they are placed in position, now part of a claw machine, a Pac Man game or another gaming scene.

“Donation Creation, formerly known as Canned Art, is basically non-perishables,” Executive Chair for Canned Art Ciara Mattson said. “That’s like boxes of mac and cheese, cans of tuna, cans of green beans, corn in cans and boxes that won’t go bad.

This year, we’re seeing some hygiene products, too.”

Every year, the Homecoming committee organizes a canned food event where campus clubs or Greek Life can sign up to build a sculpture out of canned art and compete to have the best design. Each design must meet the current year’s Homecoming theme; this year’s theme is “Bearcats Got Game!”

“(Our sculpture) was originally a Monopoly board with four main points,” Phi Sigma Kappa member Hank Goodner said. “We’ve got the Bearcat Stadium, our fraternity house, the Union and the Admin Building,

along with other points of interest around campus.”

The art is currently displayed on the second floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

“It feels nice giving back to the community to those who are in need,” Goodner said.

After the competition is judged, the items will be taken to the Bearcat Food Pantry and the Ministry Center on Main Street.

“It’s for a good cause,” Mattson said. “We’re supplying food to not only people on campus who may not be able to afford it at Walmart or Hy-Vee, but also the ministry centers who go to people who need help.”

NW Committee to reveal bronze Bobby Bearcat statue in front of Hughes Fieldhouse in ceremony

ALYNA THIBAUT
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

An eight-foot, bronze Bobby Bearcat stands proudly representing Northwest and welcomes families, alumni and students as they gather for Homecoming events.

The statue stands in front of the east side of the Carl and Cheryl Hughes Fieldhouse. The committee chose this location because it is the main place to gather for football games, graduation and University events, the committee group said.

Creative Service Manager Kim Surprise, Communication Manager Mark Hornickel, Assistant Vice President of communication and marketing Brandon Stanley and Deputy Athletic Director Troy Katen are all part of the committee behind this statue.

“We wanted the image of Bobby Bearcat everyone knows and loves but also showing strength and Northwest pride,” Hornickel said.

They said they wanted a statue that realistically represents Northwest and have been circling ideas for many years. Hornickel said they officially decided they wanted Bobby Bearcat, and President at J.L. Houston Company Ron Houston was interested in this idea and funded the project.

They officially started the project in December 2021, envisioning what a real-life Bobby would be, straying away from scary, aggressive and cartoonish.

“Bobby Bearcat symbolizes competition, success and pride,” Surprise said.

Brandon Crandall is the artist behind designing the statue, and he has been creating bronze sculptures for 16 years. When the committee came to him with its ideas, it took him six months to complete the molding and sculpting. He then sent it to Eligius Bronze in Kansas City, Missouri, where they took his molds and turned them into



DAKOTA WEAVER PHOTO EDITOR

The eight-foot Bobby Bearcat statue stands in wait to be placed in front of Carl and Cheryl Hughes Fieldhouse. The statue will have a dedication ceremony from 12-12:30 p.m. Oct. 22 on the east sidewalk of the fieldhouse.

a bronze statue.

“Bringing the process to a close and seeing everybody’s reactions is gonna be great,” Crandall said. “Getting it into its final place is where I truly get to take a breather and celebrate.”

The statue will have a dedication ceremony from 12-12:30 p.m. Oct. 22 on the east sidewalk of Carl and Cheryl Hughes Fieldhouse.

Happy
Homecoming
Bearcats

CELEBRATE AT
EL MAGUEY TODAY

2022 HOMECOMING



Bell of '48 ringing to start Homecoming

KIERSTEN HELM
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

One can hear the Ringing of the Bell of '48 across campus. In fact, at 8 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 21, the Bell of '48 will ring to commence Walkout Day and Homecoming traditions. This Homecoming, Student Senate Executive President Elizabeth Motazedi, alongside Interim President Clarence Green, will ring the Bell of '48.

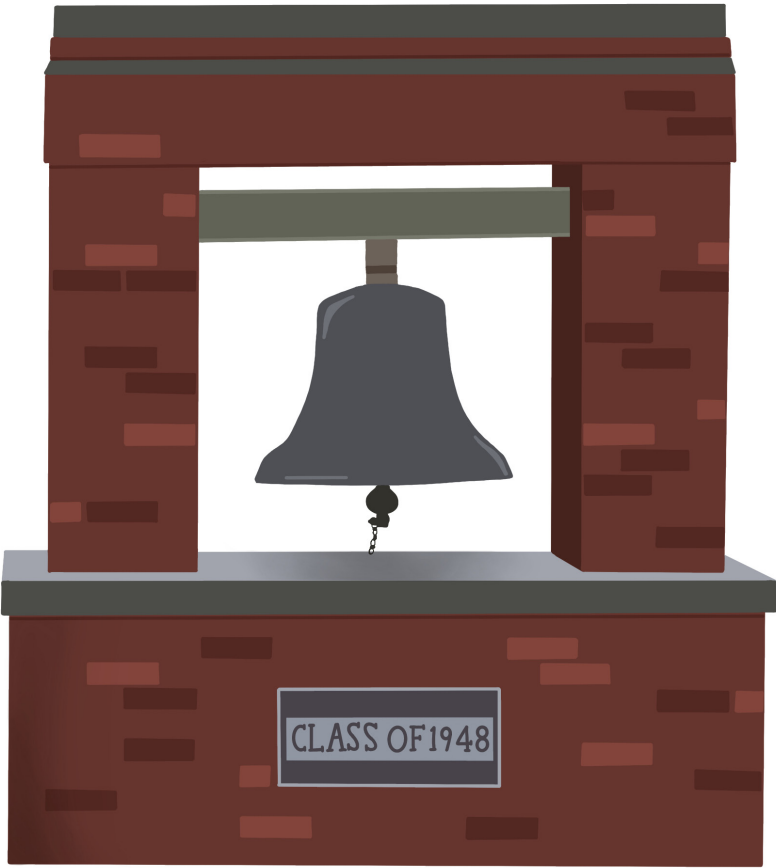
Once a gift from the class of 1948 to honor all the World War II soldiers who fought and died during the war, especially those who went to Northwest, it now stands out near the Memorial Bell Tower to chime in Northwest students during Advantage Week as well as other celebrations.

Motazedi has joined in on the fun at the Bell of '48 for the last two years as

a Senate member. She remembers how the early morning grogginess was replaced with eager excitement. Students are fueled with energy to kick off the start of Walkout Day followed by the Homecoming Parade.

“Everyone is just excited for Bearcats to come back, the game, and to do all the Homecoming festivities. The energy is always high, super positive,” Motazedi said.

“Attend every event, they’re fun and full of tradition. You will meet so many people there and reconnect with so many people there. Especially on Walkout Day and that Saturday,” Motazedi said. “We don’t have class, and they don’t give us class for a reason because they want us to go out and attend all these events and make the most out of it.”



GRAPHIC BY MAKAYLA POLAK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

International students to be honored at flag raising ceremony

RIVER BOYD
Sports Reporter | @RiverBoyd5

There are multiple traditions during Northwest Homecoming week. One of those traditions is the International Flag Raising Ceremony. This is a ceremony designed to celebrate and represent international students, including alumni.

During the ceremony, each of the 54 nations represented at Northwest will have a flag walked from the B.D. Owens Library to

the Joyce and Harvey White International Flag Plaza at 1:45 p.m. Oct. 21. This includes a parade through the Memorial Bell Tower. This parade is open to the public, and anyone can walk in the parade to celebrate different cultures and countries.

Once the flags are at the plaza, Interim President Clarence Green will share some words, followed by a speech from the International Student Organization President Janumula SaiLaxman. Countries

will then be announced one by one to be raised. Afterward, students are encouraged to stay and make new connections and talk to students at the event.

Assistant Director of the International Involvement Center Erika Lees said this tradition started during the fall semester of 1998, so this year marks the 25th anniversary of the event at Northwest.

“To highlight Northwest students and alumni who have come to the University from

other nations and as a reminder of the size and diversity of the world that is reflected on campus and within the Northwest community,” Lees said.

There are 855 international students enrolled at Northwest that will be represented during the International Flag Raising Ceremony.

“The International Flag Raising Ceremony is important because it allows international students to be represented and

celebrated on campus during Homecoming,” Lees said. “The flags not only represent current students at Northwest but also alumni from many countries over the years at the University.”

This year, there are 36 different countries being represented by international and exchange students. The remaining 18 flag poles will have sponsored flags by recent Northwest alumni.

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Jenna Lee-Johnson

Senior

Indianola, Iowa

Elementary Education

U

Ady Watts

Senior

Gretna, Nebraska

Middle School Social Science Education

A Northwest student performs their musical act at the 2019 Variety Show. The Variety Show features skits, performances and olio acts from students, organizations and Greek Life.

Variety Show to host solo, group acts

RYLEE CAPLES
 Missourian Reporter I @TheMissourian

The Northwest Variety Show will be held at 7 p.m. Oct. 20 in the Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts.

The show will consist of five skits and several solo acts placed intermittently. All students were invited to apply, whether in a student organization or not. The students participating were asked to incorporate this year’s Homecoming theme of “Bearcats Got Game!” as well as show Bearcat pride. At the end of the performances, the winners of the Homecoming King and Queen will be announced.

According to Aimee Ferry, the Homecoming Variety Show and Royalty executive chair, there will be a \$5 ticket fee which must be ordered online before the show. To purchase a ticket for the performance, there is a link on the

Homecoming page in a Link-tree on the Homecoming website. You must show your email confirmation to get in.

Ferry said they will be incorporating and promoting the Northwest Dance Company.

“We are kind of promoting the fact that you can actually join the Dance Company, which is kind of different and new,” Ferry said. “I know that they did it in previous years, but I wanted to bring that back ... and I wanted to promote that.”

The participating Northwest students have gone through various entry and rehearsal stages to become a part of this show. The finalists were announced Sept. 20 and have been going to several rehearsals throughout this month to prepare for the show.

The doors open at 6:15 p.m., and the show is to last no longer than two hours, ending before 9 p.m.

SAC to host activities for students on Walkout Day

KAYDEE VOTAW
 Design Editor I @kaydeevotaw

Walkout Day is a Northwest tradition dating back to October 1915. Students at that time decided to make it a skip day where they would do things as a student body.

Present day, it’s an official day off school with many events put on by the Student Activities Council and the University. Walkout Day kicks off the start of Homecoming weekend Oct. 21.

The Ringing of the Bell of ‘48 starts off the festivities of Walkout Day at 8 a.m. The Bell of ‘48 was gifted by its class in honor of the soldiers who fought in World War II, specifically those who attended Northwest. The tradition of Ringing the Bell of ‘48 not only symbolizes those students who have passed, but also the start of Homecoming weekend. The Bell of ‘48 is located between the Memorial Bell Tower and the Administration Building.

SAC will have activities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the J.W. Jones Student Union. It will be giving away T-shirts, mugs, buttons, stickers, bags and more.

To end the day, the International Flag Raising Ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. in the Joyce and Harvey White International Plaza. This event was started to recognize current and past Northwest students from other nations. Many students, alumni and community members attend as a way to experience the different cultures all over campus.

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ALEXANDRIA MESZ CARTOONIST

OUR VIEW:

The pandemic is over, it's time to start donating blood

Donating blood has been encouraged throughout everyone's life, yet very few people donate. This year has been the worst blood shortage in over a decade with a 10% decline in donations since the pandemic, according to the American Red Cross.

With the removal of COVID-19 restrictions, it is encouraged now more than ever to donate blood. Many wonder whether they can donate blood if they have received a COVID-19 vaccination, the answer to that is yes. Now with less risk, blood donation numbers should be rising again, yet we are nowhere near this outcome.

With recent events and going years without the needed amount of blood in hospitals, donations are more important than ever.

With the decline in donations throughout the last year, some hospitals around the country have been receiving only a quarter of the blood it requests on a daily basis. Doctors are being forced to make decisions that could determine one's life or death due to the long waiting list of blood transfusions and a declining number of blood supply.

Many don't know that when you donate to a local blood bank, your blood is used locally and in surrounding major hospitals. The Community Blood Center in St. Joseph, Missouri, supplies 100% of the blood to Mosaic Medical Center - Maryville with local donations.

Not only are you helping those within your community but those nearby. Many cancer patients receive blood transfusions to help their level of platelets, cells that circulate within the blood, after heavy chemo treatments.

For these patients and countless others, donated blood is what saves their lives.

The recent hurricane in Florida has also caused shortages of blood due to the amount of injured citizens and the lack of ability to donate in the surrounding area. The Red Cross normally doesn't donate to hospitals in Florida, but they are partnering with the AABB Task Force for Disaster Response as an additional resource. It is during times like these that we realize how important it is to do our part and donate.

The Editorial Board believes that donating blood is necessary and provides a great benefit to those in need. No one should need an incentive like a T-shirt or a gift card to consider donating. Knowing that you are helping someone in need should be a good enough reason and encouragement.

For those of you who may not be able to donate blood, there are still ways you can help. Blood drives are continuously looking for volunteers. Whether you greet the donors, help donors feel comfortable during the process or transport the blood afterwards, there are many ways you can still do your part during this time of need.

We encourage all those who can donate to do so. It's less than an hour of your day and may be the one thing that saves someone's life. There are thousands of people that are in need of blood, it doesn't matter where you are or what blood type you have, those thousands of people are ones that can be directly helped by your small action to donate.

YOUR VIEW:

Have you previously donated blood and/or will you be donating blood in the near future?

SPENCER TYLISKI
Junior
Education Major



"No I don't because of the needle ... really freaks me out."

KAITLYN RECHTERMANN
Junior
Agriculture Education



"I have given blood, and I always plan to but sometimes my body says otherwise."

TESSA POLZIN
Sophomore
Marine Biology



"I give blood because it doesn't hurt, and it helps others."

DYLAN PARRIS
Freshman
Business Management



"I give blood in hopes to help others in bad times."

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THE STROLLER:
Your Bearcat despises toxic masculinity

Cancel culture is a big thing in today's age. Why can't we cancel toxic masculinity? Coming from a woman, I beg every man to start being themselves. I know you grew up expected to rub dirt on your skinned knee and get back to playing the sport your dad made you watch every Sunday — by the way, other sports exist. Although I couldn't care less about your — more than boring — favorite TV show, I would rather hear about that than your fantasy foot-

ball team. I like football, but I don't make it my personality. I know you watched the "All Too Well" short film, just admit it, you liked it. There is no reason you have to walk around pretending not to like things because "the bros" and society tell you not to. I'd rather you shed a tear than shed light on your overcompensated ego. It's okay to be vulnerable even though you've always been told to "take it like a man." By the way, it's completely normal to not talk about your

high school athleticism. Close the yearbook dude, girls don't care that you were a linebacker in high school, we care that you actually appreciate women instead of putting them down. You aren't obligated to shotgun the entire can during beer darts in five seconds — take a break, let's be honest, it hurts to do that. Women are not debating whether or not we want to date you based off of your shotgun record. All jokes aside, women are attracted to honest, respectful

and caring men who are confident in their masculinity no matter how much or how little there is. Don't be the man you are expected to be, be the man you want to be. Besides, carrying around a Gatorade bottle to prove that you are athletic is something that we also did when we played club sports in elementary school.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of the Northwest Missourian.

Voting in
midterms is
an important
thing to do

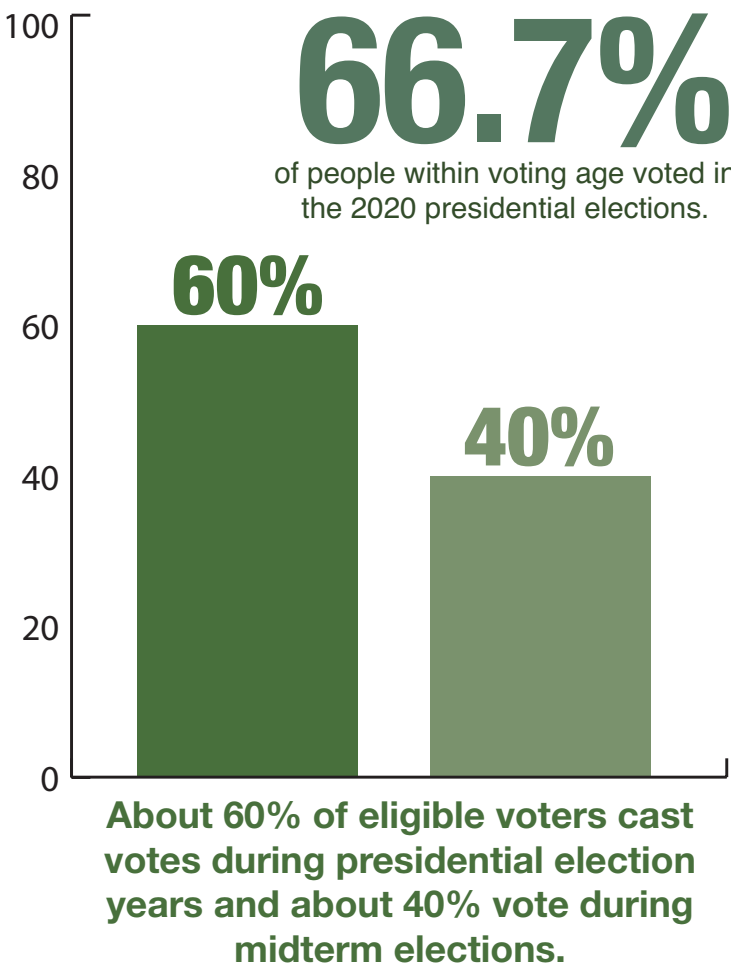


KENNEDY KALVODA
Columnist
@Kkalvoda1

Midterm elections will be held Nov. 8. These elections might not seem like they're all that important, but they matter a lot more than most people believe they do. These elections will determine which political party will have control of the federal and state Houses and Senates. This can have a massive effect on what future legislation passes or dies in both Congresses. Any future legislation that's put forward, whether at the local, federal or state level, has the potential to affect you personally. Because of this, it's important that you vote for officials that align with your views at all levels of government, no matter how big or small the position may appear to be. Along with that, there are many different issues that will be on the various state and local ballots during these elections. An example is voters in Missouri will have the opportunity to vote on whether or not weed should become legalized recreationally for people in the state who are over 21. Other topics being discussed are abortion, inflation and more. If you want the chance to make your thoughts on the different issues being put on the ballot in your state known, voting is a relatively easy and effective way to do that.

I know some of you probably think your vote doesn't matter that much, especially in smaller elections like these ones. I sometimes also feel this way. While voting isn't the end-all-be-all for making significant change in our country, it is a way for you to make your voice heard in local politics, not just national. Local politics can dictate many things, such as land use, local business and economy, parks and recreation services, public transportation and many other things that can affect your community. Another nice part of voting in this election and others is that you don't even have to go in person in order to vote. As I'm sure many of you know, you can mail in your ballot, and there are many online resources to help you fill out the forms that are needed in order to do so. To make it even easier, you can check your registration status and fill out an absentee ballot application online. I did it that way for this year, and it only took me five minutes to fill it all out. These resources make registering to vote and voting itself so much more convenient. For college students specifically, having the option to mail in ballots makes it much easier for all of us to vote. Having to travel all the way home to vote is something that most college students wouldn't do, especially for smaller elections. I encourage every single one of you to vote in these upcoming elections. It's very important to do because, while you might not personally think so, local and state elections affect you just as much as national ones do. They determine the people who will be representing your community and your state. You deserve to have a say in who represents you. Don't throw that opportunity away. These elections affect you and all the other people in your community. Speak up for the causes and people you believe in through voting. Whether you truly believe it or not, your vote matters, and it's imperative that you use it. Don't sit on the sidelines.

POLLS OPEN 6 A.M.
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SOURCE: FAIRVOTE GRAPHIC BY MAKAYLA POLAK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Walk Out-Day Giveaway | Oct. 21 | Student Union
- Grocery Bingo | Oct. 27 | Student Rec Center
- Asia: Spoken Word | Nov. 10 | CJT
- Movie Night with SAC | Dec. 1 | The Hanger



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WESLEY MILLER SPORTS EDITOR
Northwest soccer sophomore forward Sophie Cissell kicks the ball into the net for the first goal of the game during the Bearcats’ 2-1 win over Rogers State Oct. 16. Cissell has recorded three goals during the regular season.

FINALE
CONTINUED FROM A12

“It’s going to be fun. I can’t wait to see the turnout of people and feel the atmosphere of Homecoming at Northwest,” Blankenship said.

The Bearcats will wrap up Homecoming weekend and the regular season against conference foe Missouri Western Oct 23.

The last time the Bearcats played Missouri Southern this season, the ‘Cats won 3-0 Sept. 16 in Joplin, Missouri. The previous game against Missouri Western Sept. 9 in St. Joseph

ended in a 0-0 draw.

Gordon said these two matches are going to be tough, and at this point in the season, what the team has accomplished can determine the pathway of some of the teams that it will face.

“The team wants to complete the season going into the conference tournament on a high note,” Gordon said. “The focus is to get out of the weekend with a couple wins and secure that fourth spot so we can have one home game in the conference tournament and see what happens from there.”



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HOMECOMING
CONTINUED FROM A12

“I actually totally forgot about that,” Hohensee said. “I haven’t even thought about that. It’s really, you know, I’d rather get the win than any kind of award.”

When Hohensee and the Bearcats go for the win against the RiverHawks, they won’t be thinking about Northeastern being the last team on the schedule with a losing record, and they won’t be thinking about how the prior games went — against Northeastern or Homecoming.

In fact, to Wright and his junior quarterback, the record for the RiverHawks is nothing more than a number and isn’t indicative of their play.

“I mean, the score doesn’t

always dictate how the game is actually going,” Hohensee said. “You know, there’s certain things that happen, and this plays hard. They’re way better than they were last year, so we gotta go 1-0 again this week.”

“They’re doing some good things,” Wright said. “...They’re gonna battle.”

Even with only one win on the season so far, Northeastern has only lost by an average margin of roughly 25.8 points — a step up from a season ago when the RiverHawks lost by an average of roughly 40.1 points.

Northwest has won 24 of the last 26 Homecoming games since 1995, including an active six-game win streak.

A week full of themes, T-shirts, parades and activities will come to an end in Bearcat Stadium. For Hohensee, the

rest of the week and all of its festivities don’t matter. The only thing that does matter is the week’s finale.

“For us, if anything, it just brings more excitement to the game,” Hohensee said. “As far as the game goes, it’s just like every other week. We gotta go 1-0, and we got to be able to execute on game day.”

The 2022 M-Club Hall of Fame Class will also be honored during halftime of the game. This year’s class includes the 1991-92 men’s track team, the 2006 Northwest football team, Harvey Hallum for wrestling, Larry Maiorano for men’s golf, DeShaun Cooper for men’s basketball, Jared Erspamer for football, Cassie Lowell Auxier for women’s golf and Jenny Simmons Scherfenberg for women’s track and field.



TYSON ELLIOTT PHOTOGRAPHER
Northwest volleyball sophomore middle blocker Avery Kemp goes for the kill in Northwest’s match against Emporia State Oct. 15. Kemp tallied five kills across the match in the 3-1 win over the Hornets. The Bearcats take on the Missouri Southern Lions Oct. 21 and Pittsburg State Oct. 22. The Bearcats have defeated both teams once this season.

SWEEP
CONTINUED FROM A12

The last time the Bearcats squared off with the Gorillas, Northwest had 56 digs. Sophomore libero and defensive specialist Kristen Ford attributed 13 of those digs for the team.

“If we stay focused and do our systems at a high level, I am confident we will pull out a win against Pittsburg State,” Ford said. “They definitely have made their mark in conference play this year, but we are excited for the competition that they will bring when we go to play them.”

The MIAA is a very close conference with the top five teams

within four games of first place, and with only six matches remaining in the season, every match matters.

Currently, Nebraska-Kearney is on top with a 12-2 record with Northwest with a 11-3 record in second, then Central Oklahoma in third at 10-4. Behind the Bearcats are Washburn at 10-4 and Central Missouri at 9-4.

“It feels good, I mean now’s the time to push to play our best volleyball and to get a rematch against the two teams that are ahead of us,” Ferguson said. “It’s going to be the difference maker between who’s going to be a regular-season conference champion, or if someone’s going

to share the title or be the lone holder of the title.”

Northwest has aimed to be No. 1 since the beginning of the season, but the team is focused on being the best team it can be.

“It is exciting being so close to the top spot in the conference since it’s been a goal of ours, but we try not to let the idea that we need to be first consume our thoughts,” Ford said. “As we near the end of the season, we just want to take things one opponent at a time and take care of business to put ourselves in good standing at the end of the season. Every game is an opportunity for us to better ourselves and prepare for the postseason.”



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students from
39
countries

KEY PLAYERS



#9
Mike Hohensee
Quarterback



#5
Jamar Moya
Running Back

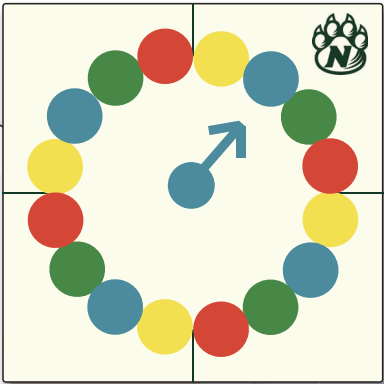


#2
Elijah Green
Defensive Tackle

KEY STATS

- 28.4 pts/game
- 18 pts allowed/game
- 392.4 yds/game
- 278.9 yds allowed/game
- 39.1 rushing yds/game

BEARCATS
NORTHWEST MISSOURI
STATE UNIVERSITY



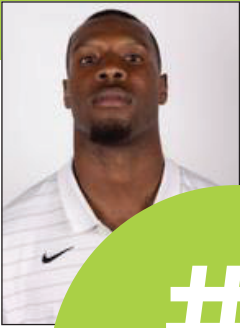
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ties you up
IN KNOTS

RIVERHAWKS
NORTHEASTERN STATE
UNIVERSITY

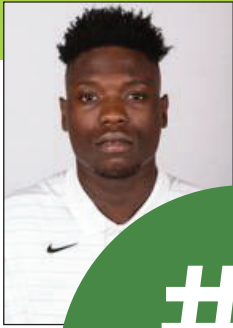
KEY STATS

- 16.7 pts/game
- 34.9 pts allowed/game
- 263.1 yds/game
- 395.6 yds allowed/game
- 113.1 rushing yds/game

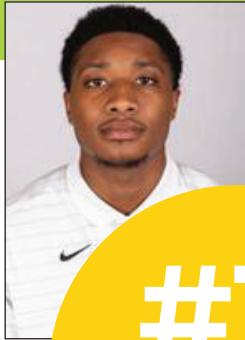
KEY PLAYERS



#1
Dashawn Williams
Wide Receiver



#3
Johnny Jean
Defensive Back



#11
Malik Antwine
Wide Receiver



MAKAYLA POLAK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Northwest football senior defensive tackle Zach Howard wraps his arm around coach Rich Wright’s shoulder between drives Oct. 8 in Carnie Smith Stadium against Pittsburg State. Howard has 24 career sacks during his time at Northwest. He also entered the 2022 season on D2Football’s first-team Elite 100 Watch List.

Howard talks about journey to Northwest

WESLEY MILLER
Sports Editor | @wesleymiller360

The roars from the crowd inside Bearcat Stadium seemingly got louder with each passing second. Washburn sophomore quarterback Kellen Simonicic just got acquainted with the turf on Mel Tjeerdsma Field, and the culprit was Northwest football senior defensive tackle Zach Howard.

Howard blew through the Ichabod offensive line to wrap up Simonicic for his first sack of the game during the second quarter of the Bearcats’ 32-30 win over Washburn Oct. 15. The senior jumped onto his feet and did what many Bearcat fans have come to expect over his five years in green and white. He grabbed his belly and shook it in celebration of his sack. The celebration nicknamed the “Truffle Shuffle” has become a mainstay for the experience at Bearcat Stadium since Howard’s first year.

“I do it because it’s fun,” Howard said. “Like, literally just keep doing it because it’s fun to do. Kind of just gets the team going and brings football back to its original roots.”

The journey for Howard and his signature celebration began years before ever stepping foot inside Bearcat Stadium. Although, his celebration’s journey is much shorter.

Just over 30 miles north of Springfield, Missouri, and nearly 230 miles south of Maryville, sits a town with a population of 10,749 people: Bolivar, Missouri. For Howard, this town is more than just where Southwest Baptist University is and is more than just the county seat of Polk County, but it’s home. This is where Howard grew up and where he found love for the sport he still plays.

Howard said his grandpa used to coach the middle and high school football team, so he always hung around him.

“I would just ride the bus over, hang out with him for the afternoon,” Howard said. “I would set up the dummies, tackle them and jump over them.”

Through his years of helping his grandpa at practice and tackling the dummies, Howard’s dream of playing football at one of the highest levels grew. Even now, Howard said he remembers what drove him to want to continue his love for football.

“I think Vince Young — I was like five or six years old when he was at Texas — and just seeing how cool it was — to obviously be Vince Young — but honestly just to play college football,” Howard said.

First stop on the path to collegiate football was high school. Before Howard ever donned green and white, he wore royal blue, gold and white for Bolivar High School.

In his time with the Liberators between 2014-18, Howard started all four years along the offensive and defensive line. On the defensive side, he earned three all-conference honors in the Ozark Conference, two all-district honors, two first-team all-region honors in the Missouri Ozarks Region and one all-state selection in Missouri Class 4.

“(It was) a lot of fun and a lot of memories made,” Howard said. “Got to grow and make some friendships through football. I still have those friends today. You remember the memories more than the win-loss record.”

While Howard played all four years, he said he felt like he could

take his game to the next level in his freshman year of high school. According to Howard, he beat a senior who had received offers from Division I teams during practice, which made Howard believe he could be good if he worked at it.

His mom, Erin Howard, said that was around the same time she also thought Zach Howard could play college football. She said her son’s former coach, Glenn Johnson, never started a freshman until her son was on the team.

“Kind of thought there was something special about him and his work ethic, IQ and just drive to want to work harder, learn more and be better,” Erin Howard said. “And just being a great teammate, too.”

Zach Howard said he received multiple offers from different schools. He was able to drop a few schools off his list because they wanted him to play on the offensive line, but he wanted to be on the defensive line. However, one fateful visit not only brought him to Maryville for one of the first times but ultimately decided his future.

Erin Howard said people told her son multiple times that he would know when he found the right school. He found it watching the team he eventually played for.

“We were sitting in the stands at a game in Maryville, and he turned to me and he said, ‘I’m going to commit here. This is it,’” Erin Howard said.

“No greater place than Northwest,” Zach Howard said. “Pretty, pretty easy decision on that one.”

For some players, entering into a program with six national titles can be a daunting task and create pressure to be good. Sometimes, it can be too much for a player. Zach Howard said it can be stressful for younger players and said players usually fall into two routes. The first one being players who think they have to be as good as those national championship teams and the second route being players who think they’re too good since they’re in a program with six titles. Neither of those assumptions are true, he said, and that while players don’t have to live up to an expectation, they should never think they’re good enough already.

“The expectations shouldn’t be to win a national championship, but it should be doing the little things right and playing a brand of football worthy of being 1-0 every week,” Zach Howard said.

Going into Week 8 of the 2022 season, he has made 155 total career tackles, recorded 40 career tackles-for-loss and totaled 24 career sacks. He is top 10 in program history for career tackles-for-loss and career sacks. He sits at No. 9 on the tackles-for-loss list and is tied for No. 4 on the sacks list with Ryan Waters (2003-06). He earned second-team all-MIAA in 2019, first-team all-MIAA in 2021 and two second-team Academic All-American selections. He also entered the 2022 season on D2Football’s first-team Elite 100 Watch List.

“It feels good, but, at the same time, Babe Ruth had a quote, he said, ‘Yesterday’s home runs don’t win today’s games,’” Zach Howard said.

As for his celebration, Zach Howard first introduced it his freshman year, during Northwest’s Week 8 game against Lindenwood Oct. 20, 2018. In the fourth quarter of the



DAKOTA WEAVER PHOTO EDITOR

Northwest football senior defensive tackle Zach Howard celebrates after he gets a sack during the second quarter of the Bearcat’s 32-30 win over Washburn Oct. 15. Howard has 40 career tackles-for-loss, which is good enough for No. 9 in program history.

“The expectation shouldn’t be to win a national championship, but it should be doing the little things right and playing a brand of football worthy of being 1-0 every week,”

-ZACH HOWARD
SENIOR DEFENSIVE TACKLE

Bearcats’ 38-17 win over the Lions, Lindenwood had a third-and-10 from its own 47-yard line, before Zach Howard burst through the offensive line for the sack on then-freshman quarterback Cade Brister to make it fourth-and-18 for the Lions.

Zach Howard got up and shook his belly in front of the 3,609 fans at Hunter Stadium in St. Charles, Missouri. That moment not only kick-started the defensive tackle’s signature celebration, but was also his first career sack as a Bearcat. Even though he debuted it against the Lions, Zach Howard said he was planning his celebration the night before in the hotel.

“Literally right before the game started, like the night before, we were all playing Marco Polo and hanging out — the O-Line and D-Line — and someone said, ‘What are you gonna do if you get a sack?’” Zach Howard said.

“And I was like, ‘I have no idea. Never thought of it,’ and they were like, ‘Well you should do the Truffle Shuffle. I was like, ‘OK, sure,’ kind of as a joke. I got the first sack the next day at Lindenwood, run up to the sideline and I’m thinking, ‘What am I gonna do? I don’t have enough time to do the Truffle Shuffle,’ so I just shook the belly.”

He said he thought it was fun so he decided to continue with it. Of course, now it is seemingly expected every time the Bolivar native makes a play, and, every time he does, the crowd loves it.

However, he never expected it to get as much love as it does now.

“That was not the intent,” Zach Howard said with a laugh. “I mean, thankful for the fans being there enjoying it, but I never thought it was gonna be like this.”

HOME OF THE 'CATS



DAKOTA WEAVER PHOTO EDITOR

Northwest football junior wide receiver Kashan Griffin dives for the goal line after a 53-yard pass from junior quarterback Mike Hohensee against Washburn to extend the Bearcats lead to 16-3. Griffin had two touchdowns and 163 receiving yards against the Ichabods Oct. 15.

Bearcats await RiverHawks for Homecoming

WESLEY MILLER
Sports Editor | @wesleymiller360

In 1911, University of Missouri's Athletic Director and football coach Chester Brewer asked alumni to "come home" for a football game against the University of Kansas.

The game ended in a 3-3 tie in Columbia, Missouri, and, although it is debated by other schools, this event is claimed to be the first Homecoming game ever. The game helped kickstart a tradition that is seen all across the country, where weeklong activities lead into the football game at the end of the week that serves as the finale for the festivities. Nearly 220 miles away from Columbia and 111 years later, Northwest football prepares for the program's 74th edition of Homecoming.

Coach Rich Wright said after the 32-30 win over Washburn Oct. 15, he's ready to see how the team progresses with only three weeks of the regular season left.

"Homecoming is this week against Northeastern State, and we got three games left down the stretch so we got a lot to play for," Wright said. "Excited to see how some of the pieces that are coming back, if they can help us trend where we need to."

For Homecoming Oct. 22, the Bearcats (5-2) will play the RiverHawks (1-6) for the 12th game all-time between the two

UP NEXT

NW vs. Northeastern State
2 p.m. Oct. 22
Bearcat Stadium

squads. Northwest is undefeated against Northeastern with a record of 11-0. Since the RiverHawks joined the MIAA in 2012, the two have met nine times, and the Bearcats have won by an average margin of 47.9 points — the biggest win coming in 79-0 fashion Nov. 2, 2019.

Northwest junior quarterback Mike Hohensee already has one Homecoming game under his belt after starting during the team's 66-13 triumph over Nebraska-Kearney Oct. 30, 2021. The St. Charles, Illinois, native not only started that game but was also honored with the Don Black Award, which is presented to the most valuable player in the Homecoming contest.

He went 14-for-18 on passing attempts, and he threw for 270 passing yards and three passing touchdowns. He combined that with 68 rushing yards and a score on the ground. Despite being only the 44th player in Northwest history to be selected for the award, he said he's not even thinking about it heading into his next Homecoming matchup.

SEE HOMECOMING | A8

Volleyball looks to sweep pair of conference teams

RIVER BOYD
Sports Reporter | @RiverBoyd5

Northwest volleyball will be in Bearcat Arena for the sixth time this season as the Bearcats will take on Missouri Southern Oct. 21.

The 'Cats are 5-0 at home, including a 2-0 record against top-25 opponents. Part of that success came last week when Northwest went 3-0, and the Bearcats moved to No. 13 in the latest American Volleyball Coaches Association coaches poll and No. 8 in the Volleyblog power rankings.

These are not the only accolades the 'Cats received, as two Northwest players received MIAA Player of the Week status. Junior setter Alyssa Rezac was named MIAA Setter of the Week and AVCA National Player of the Week. The MIAA Defensive Player of the Week award went to sophomore defensive specialist Kyah Luhning. Rezac is the first Bearcat to be named AVCA

National Player of the Week.

"Those were some big games for us," Rezac said. "It is nice to have the home court advantage, especially later in the season. I thought we did a pretty good job, overall, executing our game plans."

The Bearcats will be taking on Missouri Southern on Northwest Walkout Day Oct. 21. The 'Cats will attempt to get a win during their Homecoming weekend match and sweep the Lions in the season series.

Northwest is catching fire as it is on a four-match winning streak, including two wins against top-25 foes. Junior right-side Jaden Ferguson has been a big help during those matches as she has a total of 51 kills, eight aces and 62 digs in the four matches. She said the Lions are always a tough opponent.

"It's really important as Missouri Southern is a team that plays up to whatever team they're playing," Ferguson said.

UP NEXT

NW vs. Missouri Southern
6 p.m. Oct. 21
Bearcat Arena

NW vs. Pittsburg State
6 p.m. Oct. 22
Pittsburg, Kansas

"It will be a good game, and it's our one home game for Homecoming. Anytime we're here for Homecoming, we want to make the most of it."

Northwest has a 15-match win streak against Southern, dating back to Sept. 26, 2015. The last nine matchups have ended in a sweep of the Lions.

Following the one-match homestand, the Bearcats will go on the road for the final time this season to play Pittsburg State Sept. 21. The 'Cats will have a chance to get another season series sweep.

SEE SWEEP | A8



TYSON ELLIOTT PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior setter Alyssa Rezac sets the ball to sophomore middle blocker Abby Brunssen for the kill against Emporia State Oct. 15. Brunssen claimed 10 kills in the 3-1 win over the Hornets.

Two regular season matches left for Bearcat soccer

CRAIG MCMULLEN
Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

Northwest soccer clinched a spot in the MIAA Tournament with two home wins and looks forward to finishing the regular season.

The Bearcats were able to find a way to get a win in the predicted cold, windy weather conditions against Northeastern State Oct. 14. It was a complete match for the Bearcats as they had 24 total shots and limited the RiverHawks to a mere eight opportunities. Sophomore forward Adell Gore scored the only goal of the game before half-time and helped the Bearcats to

a 1-0 win.

Before the game against Rogers State Oct. 16, the Bearcats recognized seniors, forward Kaitlyn Case, goalkeeper Grace Goetsch, defender Caroline Sanders, midfielder Annelize Aleixo and defender Letycia Bonifacio. With it being senior day, Goetsch played to let red-shirt freshman goalkeeper Lily Ellis rest before the final weekend of games.

"I felt like it was the perfect way to wrap up my time at Northwest," Goetsch said. "I am really proud about what these seniors have accomplished."

Gore would score her second

goal of the weekend, and sophomore forward Sophie Cissell would add on another to help the Cats to a 2-1 win and move to fourth place in the MIAA standings. Both goals were assisted by junior forward Kaylie Rock, who added to her record total and became the all-time assist leader for the Bearcats with 14, passing midfielder Anna Calgaard, who held the record with 13 throughout the 2010-2013 seasons.

The Bearcats (10-4-2) have now won five straight games and will have back-to-back 10-win seasons for the first time since the 2008 and 2009 seasons heading

into the last weekend of the regular season at Bearcat Pitch. Coach Marc Gordon said a lot of it has to do with the players the program has been able to recruit.

"They are buying into the process of what I envisioned for a successful program, and I am very fortunate to have the young women who want to be Bearcats," Gordon said.

Northwest will play a match Oct. 21 against Missouri Southern, which will be a Pink-Out game in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Missouri Southern (2-12-1) is out of the MIAA playoffs. The Lions have struggled on defense, allowing

UP NEXT

NW vs. Missouri Southern
3 p.m. Oct. 21
Bearcat Pitch

NW vs. Missouri Western
1 p.m. Oct. 23
Bearcat Pitch

37 goals this season.

One of the Bearcats, freshman defender and midfielder Mackenzie Blankenship said she is excited to be playing at home and be a part of the Homecoming activities.

SEE FINALE | A8



RENEE HASKELL PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest junior Abby Cunningham donates blood for the first time at Student Senate’s annual fall blood drive held Oct. 18-19 in the J.W. Jones Student Union. The blood drives are held in conjunction with the Community Blood Bank, which supplies 100% of the blood to Mosaic Medical Center-Maryville.

PLASMA PROBLEMS

Shortage affects local blood banks

HANNAH CLAYWELL
News Reporter | @Hannah_9504

At the height of COVID-19, the American Red Cross declared a blood crisis due to not enough people donating and fewer blood drives being held. Only about three percent of people donate blood in America.

Betsy Tinker, account manager for the Community Blood Center in northwest Missouri and east Kansas, said that even though it has been a while since the start of this issue, it has not improved much. The CBC is responsible for sending out nearly 3,600 units of blood to area hospitals.

Tinker said because nobody understood COVID-19 at the time of the blood shortage, everything was getting shut down, and usual events did not have a chance to happen. The schools being shut down had a big impact because that was where a lot of donations were coming from.

“So, we actually lost 68,000 units of

blood that we usually would have collected at our high schools,” Tinker said. “Ever since then, we have just been trying to struggle to get those donors to come back, number one, and just to try to rebuild our blood supply.”

About
3%
of people in America
donate blood every year

Several places that held blood drives before COVID have not come back to donate again. Northwest still had its annual blood drive, with Student Senate sponsoring this year’s drive Oct. 18-19.

There usually is a competition between Northwest and Missouri West-

ern State University. This is used to try and get more students and faculty members to come donate blood. Last year was the first year Missouri Western won. Tinker said they are still trying to find ways to get people to come back in and donate.

“There’s always things that pop up in your life you never can expect, and it’s happened in my life, where my wife has needed blood, and so it’s important just to make sure the blood supply is there,” Todd Weddle, senior multimedia specialist, said.

“It saves lives,” senior Elizabeth Swafford said.

“We struggle every single day trying to get our donors back,” Tinker said.

Tinker said donating right now is very important. She said they never know what is going to happen, and there may be another bad run of COVID-19 this winter, so getting donations right now will help them in case they are not able to receive donations during the winter.

Tinker said it is important that there

is not another blood shortage because being prepared for another situation similar to COVID-19 is crucial to continue supplying blood to those in need.

“It takes seven days for us to process blood after we collect it, so the ideal thing would be to have all that blood on hand before something bad happens,” Tinker said. “You just never know nowadays. It’s a scary world we live in.”

The rates of blood donations have not been improving much also because of the time restraints. Usually colleges have blood drives for three days, but recently the blood drives have only lasted for two days, limiting the number of donations received.

The blood shortage is still affecting places today and is barely improving, and the Community Blood Center is still struggling to get back to the point it was before the blood crisis.

“We just need every student, teacher or anybody who works at that college can please come out and donate at the Northwest blood drive,” Tinker said.

NW alumna expands student disability app

JAKOB PRATER
News Editor | @JakobLPraer

Northwest Alumna Cindy Fisher is the creator of Smart Steps Mobile, an app that assists disabled students in the transition from student to adult life.

The app was first released in 2014 and since then has been updated with other versions, with Fisher looking to expand the app into other social skills for autistic students. The app helps disabled students with daily problems they might encounter and solutions to those problems, serving as a daily guide for those who need it.

Fisher, originally from North Kansas City, Missouri, first attended Northwest in 1976. She

majored in elementary education and specialized in learning disabilities. Fisher was also a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma and graduated in 1980. She spent the next 40 years teaching special education in the Kansas City area across all levels, from elementary, middle school and high school. She spent eight of those 40 years teaching special education to college students, aged 18 through 21.

Fisher said the idea for the app came to her when she was with students at a community college. One of her autistic students lost his backpack and had to go home without it. Fisher said that he was upset that he lost it and had to leave it behind.

“I wanted him to have ways to

be able to figure out what to do in situations like that without getting really upset. Because he was really upset, we had to make him get on the bus to go home,” Fisher said.

Fisher said someone suggested making a flip chart for special education students and the problems they might run into, especially if there was more than one solution, such as more than one place the student could have looked for a lost backpack.

“It was kind of complicated for him to try to memorize or carry around pieces of paper with that information, and so that’s when I realized that this would make a great app,” Fisher said. “So then I started taking business development classes through the Kauffman Foun-

dation in Kansas City, and they help entrepreneurs.”

Fisher took an entrepreneurship class at UMKC, got a couple grants and she was on her way.

One of the grants Fisher received for starting up the Smart Steps app was Digital Sandbox, a Kansas City-based grant which gives funding to beginning entrepreneurs. The other was a grant from The LiveWell App Factory, a project based in Atlanta that promotes and funds technology or apps for disabled people.

Fisher found experts to code the app for her, and after a lengthy process, the app was launched in 2014 with another version coming out two years later. Lately, she’s been wanting to expand the services the app

can offer. Particularly, she’s been wanting it to branch out into other issues for autistic students, such as dating, social skills and other health-related issues.

Fisher said the app doesn’t have as many users as she’d like and would like to see it expand. She said autistic students tend to date other autistic students so that they understand each other better, and with the app’s planned new features, it could help them work out any relationship issues they might have.

“I’m in the process of doing that, but I’m in the early stages, so I can always use more people because I get really interesting ideas, and people think of different ways to actually use the app,” Fisher said.

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Applications open for Social Justice Training

ALYNA THIBAUT
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Spring semester is sneaking up and faculty have the opportunity to apply for the spring cohort of the Social Justice Training Institute. For any staff interested, applications are open until Oct. 31.

The Social Justice Training Institute provides foundational knowledge of understanding and talks about topics like race, gender, sexual orientation, internationality, etc. to all employees at Northwest.

Assistant Vice President of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett emphasized the importance of all staff being welcomed because of the interactions that are outside of the classroom. Many faculty talk to students more than their teachers so it’s essential for everyone to know how to talk about certain topics and create inclusivity.

“For our employees, the number one goal that we have is to create and foster an inclusive environment,” Mallett said. “So, we wanted to provide a mechanism to be able to provide our employees with the skills to foster an inclusive environment here at Northwest.”

In 2016, the program was brought to Northwest by the former Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion Juanita Simmons. It was then halted in 2018, but after 2020, a high request from faculty asked to bring it back. Mallett has been teaching the class since 2017.

“I wanted to bring it back, but I wanted it to focus a lot more than just implicit bias. Implicit bias is just one part of someone’s social justice journey,” Mallett said. “I really wanted it to hone in on focusing on some other components as well.”

Mallett and his team in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion spent all of 2020 and 2021 doing research on various topics they wanted to cover. Once put together, they created the new cohort Social Justice Training Institute, where the first group started in August.

Any interested faculty can fill out a form answering some basic questions and then two essay questions about inclusivity and how this program could help them. Mallett and others then choose a diverse group of staff as they don’t want one group to be full of just staff offices of student involvement.

Mallett explained they only offer it to

about 20 staff members each term because if it was offered to everyone, it would be hard to make those connections and get people to talk about their experiences in a safe and comfortable environment.

They also have partnered with Wellness Services to bring a courageous component and offer the counseling aspect because Mallett said this can bring back some traumatic experiences.

“If you are going to go on your social justice journey and try to promote and foster an inclusive environment, you’re gonna have to make yourself vulnerable in this process,” Mallett said.

There are two groups going throughout the semester, a Thursday and Friday group. The groups meet from 2-4 p.m. on the second Thursday and Friday of each month. The groups go through a presentation on the topic and interactive activities. After the class, members are required to post a written response on Canvas about what they learned in class that day and how they can apply it to the classroom or their lives.

Topics discussed include impact of language, race and racism and how to create and foster an inclusive environment. Members are also required to attend activities and events like the Hispanic Heritage Month events from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion as well as the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences Occupy Vawk lecture series. Mallett said this is to get more interaction outside of the classes and get a different perspective.

He said his goal for this program is to enhance culture companies and create comfortability in talking about these topics. Mallett hopes to spread classes like this and the Justice, Equity Diversity and Inclusion program offered for only students out to the community.

“The concept of Diversity and Inclusion isn’t gonna go away anytime soon. As an institution, we’ve made a conscious decision. We not only want to diversify our student body, but we also want to bring it and attract more diverse employees as well,” Mallett said. “If that’s truly our goal and what we want to accomplish, then we have to feel comfortable and understand some of the things we need to do to create a welcoming environment for people from different intersecting identities.”

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Ceramic pieces entitled *Juncture #29 (Landscape)* and *Juncture #28 (Growth)* are presented on staggered platforms in the Olive DeLuce Art Gallery. The artist Ellen Kleckner creates lots of similar pieces where each part of the structure become interdependent while maintaining its own individual integrity.



NATHAN SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER

Artist Ellen Kleckner’s work is displayed in the Olive DeLuce Art Gallery, pieces include three rocker bowls, a wall of reimagined obsolete gadgets, surrounded by other ceramic works featuring wooden add-ons. The bowls were inspired by rocking beds made for dying elderly people for family members or hospice to be able to comfort them and rock them to sleep.

Mixed media artist visits University

KENNEDY KALVODA
News reporter | @Kkalvoda1

Vibrant shades of yellow, blue and green bring life to a sterile, white space. The works of mixed media ceramic artist Ellen Kleckner brightened the Olive DeLuce Gallery with its color.

Northwest Department of Fine and Performing Arts hosted Kleckner for a public lecture at 7 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building. Accompanying the lecture, her exhibition entitled “Coupling” will be on display in the Olive DeLuce Gallery until Nov. 18.

Kleckner is a globally recognized artist and art educator who is currently living in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Along with that, Kleckner is the executive director of the Iowa Ceramics Center and Glass Studio. Throughout the lecture, she discussed her various works, her journey in art through her schooling up until now and careers in art.

“I’m talking a lot about my current work, but that work is built upon 20 years of creat-

ing and making in the art field,” Kleckner said. “Although this is a new body of work, it’s really built upon that foundation of working and making.”

While Kleckner has paid her dues through climbing the ladder of the art industry, she has also paid her dues in terms of education in art. She received a bachelor’s degree in ceramics from the Appalachian Center for Craft and obtained a master’s degree in arts from Ohio University.

Northwest Assistant Professor of Ceramics Veronica Watkins said the University has opportunities to submit proposals for visiting artists with the Missouri Arts Council, and Kleckner was an artist that Watkins had wanted to visit Northwest for a while.

“I’ve seen her work, and I thought it was really great,” Watkins said. “I thought she would have specific experience within the arts about careers, administration and residencies that would be of great interest to our students.”

Watkins said two of the reasons she thinks Kleckner is an

important artist to have visit Northwest is because she has a lot of education and has a lot of experience in various areas of art. Watkins said she believes that both of these things are relevant to Northwest students.

“The caliber of artist that she is sets a great example for our students,” Watkins said.

Freshman fine arts studio major Ffiona Stone said that one of the biggest things that she learned from Kleckner’s lecture was the importance of collaboration with other artists and learning new skills from them.

“My whole life I’ve kind of looked at art as kind of my thing,” Stone said. “But seeing how much she’s learned from researching and pulling in ideas from other artists, it’s inspired me to maybe branch out a little more and maybe invite other people into my process.”

Something that made this specific visit different from other lectures and exhibitions that the department has done at Northwest previously is that Kleckner was on campus the day of and

the day after giving her lecture.

During her time on campus, she conducted multiple live demonstrations of her artistic process. She also conversed with and gave critiques to Northwest art students.

Kleckner said she hopes that the demonstrations gave students a glimpse into the different methods that she uses in order to create her work and showed them just how long the process to create art can be.

“More than anything I want students to see the process,” Kleckner said. “It’s not quick and easy. It’s not a check off the box, this is done. It’s a long, multistep process.”

Kleckner said she also hopes that being on campus for a couple of days and working with students will encourage them to have more discussions about the meaning behind their work and their peer’s work.

“A space like a school, people can have those conversations, and I want to encourage those creative conversations with students,” Kleckner said.

Facility Services consider selling memorial arena

KIERSTEN HELM
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Horses are boarded at Northwest in the Edward Phillips Memorial Rodeo Arena, an arena that was donated by a widowed wife, Holly, 27 years ago. The arena finds itself amongst conversation that the University may sell the property. The decision to sell will affect more than just the owners whose horses are housed there, but also the Northwest Horseman’s Association by not having a place on campus to practice what they’re teaching.

Dan Haslag, assistant vice president of Facility Services, said the arena is in the process of finding the value. This has to be done before buyers can begin their part of the conversation. Haslag said it is unclear who appraised the land or the value it is worth.

“I’m not sure what sparked the discussion, but we were approached by a couple different entities interested in acquiring the rodeo property,” Haslag said. He was unaware of who the potential buyers are and why the sudden interest in buying the facility.

The idea for this arena sparked from working with other fathers whose children were riders at Northwest. The arena features stall barns, run barns, tack rooms,



NATHAN SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER

The chipping and weathering of the letters on the Ed Phillips Memorial Arena, donated to Northwest by his wife Holly, show signs of the 27 years of it being in use. Facility Services said there has been interest in people buying the arena.

a hay loft, a warm-up arena, and stock area, bull and roping shutes, a crow’s nest, a turn-out pasture and an outdoor riding arena.

Shortly before the arena was built, Ed Phillips passed away which led to a quick dedication to his name. This arena is not just a memorial for Ed Phillips, but also a place that provides students an opportunity to continue their passion for horseback riding.

Previously, this arena offered many rodeos and frequently brought in revenue. Today, however, it is primarily used as a boarding place for three or four horses as well as the meeting grounds for the Horseman’s Association.

“What I understand, it is not an expectation that the rodeo arena area acts as a money maker or brings in/serves as an alternative source of revenue,” Haslag said.

This sports club meets every Tuesday and Thursday at the arena to ride horses, with a business meeting once a month. It’s an opportunity for students who aren’t experienced in riding horses to gain confidence in themselves.

After some groundwork of learning the horses and equine safety, they have the opportunity to ride one of the horses available. There are also opportunities for students to compete at various horse shows across sur-

rounding states and host events such as the Fun Show that was hosted last year.

Kodi Haas, an alumni of the organization and Northwest, reached out via email with thoughts regarding the selling of the barn. This arena was a safe haven for Haas during their college years.

“A place for new friendships and students that find horses as more than just a pastime,” Haas said.

It brings a piece of home to the University in a way a picture couldn’t.

“...I enjoyed all that the University barn had to offer and those ex-

periences have led me to be able to share those equine experiences with troubled teens today,” Haas wrote in an email to the Missourian. “Without my ability to utilize the equine setup the University had, I wouldn’t be as prepared for my job I hold today as farm and ranch director at a boys ranch for troubled teens,” Haas said.

Mackenzie DuVal, parks and recreation management major and president of the Horseman’s Association, joined her sophomore year as a timid rider. Within the last three years, she said she has narrowed down her interest and dedicated more time to those that meant a lot more to her — especially this club.

DuVal remembers one horse in particular that was boarded at the facility and was not quite ready to be ridden. She spent countless hours building a relationship with this horse. After all this work, she eventually was able to ride.

As president, DuVal has helped mentor students to build their horsemanship.

“It was so satisfying seeing that lightbulb click in their heads, getting that AHA moment. I felt really excited and proud for these girls,” DuVal said.

The arena has created a place where students and animals can bond.



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